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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2533
INFO RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 0029
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 0215
RUEHBN/AMCONSUL MELBOURNE 6909
RUEHPT/AMCONSUL PERTH 5173
RUEHDN/AMCONSUL SYDNEY 5182
RHMMUNA/HQ USPACOM
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC
RHEHAAA/THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0866

UNCLAS CANBERRA 000043

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

STATE PLEASE PASS USAID/OFDA, DEPARTMENT S/ES-O FOR TFHA01,
EAP/ANP CARPENTER-ROCK, MOORE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: EAID PREL AS

SUBJECT: TFHA01: AUSTRALIA FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO HAITI

REF: A. SECSTATE 4909

1B. SECSTATE 4854

1C. CANBERRA 37

11. (U) This is an action request. See para 4.

12. (SBU) Australia's initial contribution to the Haiti relief effort - A\$10 million (ref C) will be completed this week. Econoff conveyed message in ref B to Ausaid's Thanh Le, Manager for Humanitarian and Emergency Response on January 19. Le said that Australia's contribution breaks down as follows:

-- A\$4.5 million already provided to the World Food Program;
-- A\$2.5 million to Australian NGOs, to be provided by the end of this week;
-- A\$1 million already provided to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies;
-- A\$1 million to be provided to UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs;
-- A\$1 million to the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency.

13. (SBU) Le said that Ausaid and DFAT will request additional funding from FM Smith for use in the upcoming reconstruction phase. According to Le, Australia will coordinate with CARICOM and other partners before determining the scope of follow-on reconstruction assistance.

14. (SBU) Le asked for clarification of the proposed Friends of Haiti Group meeting in Canada on January 25. He said the GOA was unclear whether this meeting was intended to serve as a coordination meeting for a larger pledging conference later in the year, in which case Ministerial representation would not be needed, or the actual pledging meeting itself. If the latter, Smith or another senior delegate would likely attend.

Post requests any additional detail about the scope and purpose of the proposed meeting. Point of contact is MDRO David Atkinson, 61 02 6214-5810, atkinsondr@state.gov.

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